



HISTORY OF MPSCS

September 2012

Three decades of Planning and Implementation

The implementation process of MPSCS began nearly three decades ago. In 1984, the Michigan Department of State Police formed a Steering Committee to evaluate its crumbling two-way radio system, which had been in operation since the 1940s. The committee consisted of several state departments including the State Police, Natural Resources, Transportation, Management and Budget, Military Affairs and representatives of the state House and Senate Fiscal Agencies.

The committee recommended building a new system which specified that the new network must be large and flexible enough to support all state agencies. By 1990, the Governor's Telecommunications Task Force supported the Steering Committee's recommendation. In 1992, after several years of system design planning and cost studies, specifications for a request for proposal were finalized and published for response.

When the decision arrived to build a new system, it was announced that the new network would not only serve the State Police, but also would be opened to include all state and local public safety agencies. In 1992, after several years of completing various system design plans and cost studies, specifications for a request for proposal were finalized and sent to potential vendors.

In June 1994, the Michigan Legislature overwhelmingly approved the funding for the new system, awarding Motorola with the largest single-vendor contract in the State of Michigan's history.

The next task at hand was to establish a specific design and implementation plan for the largest project in Michigan's history. The result was a detailed blueprint that divided the state into four geographic areas that constituted phases for project implementation. As it would later be determined, the State of Michigan and Motorola would conquer these phases in a timely and cost efficient manner throughout project construction.

Achieving Milestones

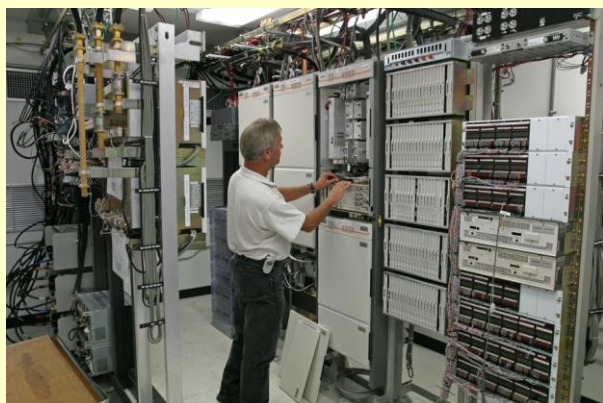
In September 1995, Michigan celebrated the achievement of the system's first major milestone when the state broke ground on Phase One construction. Phase One, which constitutes all of southeast Michigan, including the Detroit, Jackson and Lansing areas was officially completed in 1997. In 1998, the second major milestone was reached when Phase Two, which includes all of southwest Lower Michigan, was brought online. The completion of Phase Three, the northern Lower Peninsula followed in 2000.





In September 2002, the first public safety agencies of the Upper Peninsula were brought onto the system, signifying full statewide interoperability. Completing the project was the ASTRO® 25 6.0 upgrade that took place in November 2002, the first in the nation. This state-of-the-art technology platform included such features as simulcast and increased system capacity. At time of initial construction, the MPSCS consisted of 179 towers and 8,000 radios from a limited number of state, federal, and local agencies.

Since the initial implementation of the MPSCS, the system continues to grow exponentially. The MPSCS has continued to evolve from the initial design to facilitate expansion of interoperable communications in accordance with Michigan's State-wide Communications Interoperable Plan (SCIP).



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Interoperable Communications

The attack on the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001, brought to the forefront the need for interoperable communications. MPSCS has integrated almost nine simulcast city/county subsystems into the MPSCS system and works co-operatively with Canadian and adjoining state's agencies to provide cross-jurisdictional communications in border areas.



Today in 2012, the MPSCS consists of 244 towers (an increase of 73%) and 62,000 radios (an increase of 675%) from over 1400 federal, state and local agencies and recently upgraded to the 7.11 software platform adding advanced security enhancements. Since the system was built, the MPSCS has experienced a 40% reduction in staffing level.